

Sample Letter For Non-Pricing Child Care Programs Under Day Care Home Sponsor (PROVIDER)

[Insert Sponsor Letterhead]

Dear Provider:

To qualify for Tier I reimbursement, or if you wish to receive reimbursement for meals served to your own children under the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), you must complete, sign and return to us the enclosed Income Eligibility Statement form. Below are answers to common questions about the CACFP:

1. **How do I qualify for Tier I reimbursement for meals served to children enrolled in my home?** You must either (a) live in an area that is eligible based on economic need as determined by school enrollment or census data, or () establish economic need through the information provided on the enclosed IES form.
2. **Who determines my eligibility as a tier I day care home?** Our office will determine your eligibility status. We will use the information you provide on the IES form. Make sure you complete and sign the form; report all household income (not just your family care home business income); and provide appropriate records of your income. Return the completed form and other papers to: [Insert Organization Name, Address, and Phone number].
3. **What kind of records should I submit with my IES Form?** If you operated a family day care home business last year, attach a copy of your most recent tax return, including Schedule C. Include payment statements for work and other forms of income. The papers you send must show the name of the person who received the income, the date it was received, how much was received, and how often it was received.
4. **How do I get reimbursed for meals to serve to my own children?** You are required by law to complete this form if you wish to claim meals served to your own children. Even if you live in an area identified as one of economic need, or you have already been classified as a Tier I home, you must complete this form. Our office may verify the information you submit.
5. **If I do not live in an area of economic need or don't want to submit the IES Form, what are my options for reimbursement?** You will receive lower rates of reimbursement or meals served to children enrolled in your family day care home.
6. **Will the information I give be verified?** Maybe. We may ask you to send written proof to verify the information you submitted on the form. **What if I disagree with the decision about the information I complete on this form?** You should talk to your sponsoring organization. You may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: [Insert Organization Name, Address, and Phone number].

7. **Who should I include as members of my household?** You must include all people in your household (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends who live with you). You must include yourself and all children who live with you.
8. **How do I report income information and changes in employment status?** The income you report must be the total gross income listed by source for each household member received last month. If last month's income does not accurately reflect your circumstances, you may provide a projection of your monthly income. If no significant change has occurred, you may use last month's income as a basis to make this projection. If your household's income is equal to or less than the amounts indicated for your household's size on the attached Income Chart, you will receive a higher level of reimbursement. Once properly approved for free or reduced price benefits, whether through income or proof of benefits as supported by a current Food Stamp, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number, you will remain eligible for those benefits for a period not to exceed 12 months. You should, however, notify us if you or someone in your household becomes unemployed and the loss of income during the period of unemployment causes your household income to be within the eligibility standards (participants with family members who become unemployed are eligible for the free or reduced-price meals during the period of unemployment, provided that the loss of income causes the family income, during the period of unemployment, to be within the eligibility standards for those meals).
9. **May I fill out a form if someone in my household is not a U.S. Citizen?** Yes. You or your children do not have to be U.S. citizens.
10. **What if I have foster children?** In certain cases foster children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals regardless of the income of such households with whom they reside and that households wishing to apply for benefits for foster children should contact [Insert Organization Name, Address, and Phone Number].
11. **We are in the military. Do we include our housing allowance as income?** If your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative and you receive the Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance, do not include these allowances as income. Also, in regard to deployed service members, only that portion of a deployed service member's income made available by them or on their behalf to the household will be counted as income to the household. All other allowances must be included in your gross income.

In the operation of the CACFP, no person will be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

If you have other questions or need help, call [phone number].

[Signature]